

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:176

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016

Scheme for PRIs

Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has urged the Gram Panchayats to play an active role in developmental activities and make use of Union Government's schemes for strengthening democracy at the grass root level and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the schemes under implementation for strengthening/ empowering panchayats across the country during the last two years; and
- (c) whether there is any monitoring mechanism to oversee the functioning of panchayats as per the guidelines of the Union Government and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 176 FOR 28.07.2016 REGARDING SCHEME FOR PRIs

(a) Yes, Madam. The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his speech on the occasion of the concluding ceremony of the "Gramoday Se Bharat Uday" Abhiyan on April 24, 2016 had exhorted Gram Panchayats to play an active role in implementation of Central Government programmes relating to Soil Health Cards, Swachh Bharat for Open Defecation Free Panchayats, Mid-Day Meal scheme, Indradhanush Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Drip Irrigation, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Rural Electrification, Digital India, etc.

(b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj implemented Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme till 2014-15 which was aimed at strengthening the Panchayats in participatory planning in the backward regions to address the critical developmental gaps, and the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan in 2014-15 and 2015-16 for strengthening different aspects of Panchayati Raj across the country. In addition to the above, the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana and the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana envisage empowerment of Panchayats for effective coordination, monitoring and supervision of convergent implementation of various developmental interventions.

(c) The Ministry has constituted a coordination committee for providing guidance and support to State Governments and Local Bodies on implementation of recommendations and utilisation of funds under Fourteenth Finance Commission award. The States where the constitutional provisions of the Panchayats apply have also set up empowered committees at State, District and Block level for monitoring and facilitation of convergent planning by the Gram Panchayats under their respective Gram Panchayat Development Plan guidelines. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj also regularly reviews the status of devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to Panchayats through yearly assessment by an Independent Agency.
